CLOSED SHELF

The People's Korea

No. 8 | MAR 27 1961 | TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1961 | ★ Price: 15 yen (5 cent)

CHANG MYUN PLOTS TO FRAME LAWS MORE FASCISTIC THAN RHEE'S "SECURITY" ACT

Today the South Korean people are unanimously demanding independent and peaceful unification of their fatherland and South-North negotiation and interchange. Driven to a corner by the powerful struggle of the people, the U. S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique are making desperate efforts for framing an "Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law" and a "Law for Regulation of Demonstrations" to suppress the people's struggle.

Chang Myun Hastens to Frame "Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law," "Law for Regulation of Demonstrations"

The Chang Myun regime is intending to submit the "Law for Regulation of Demonstrations" to the National Assembly, according to a Seoul report. The purpose of the law is to suppress rallies and demonstrations.

Under the law, rallies or demonstrations are to be held in a place over 50 metres from public buildings. It also provides that no demonstration shall be permitted to continue in one place for more than 30 minutes. This means a virtual ban on rallies and demonstrations in major cities of South Korea.

Meanwhile, the Chang Myun clique is intending to frame an "Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law," according to a Seoul report. The real purpose of this law is to empower the authorities to suppress or arrest any person, at their own will, in the name of "maintenance of public peace," the report said. The "Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law," though similar in nature to the notorious "National Security Law," is designed to suppress broader sections of the people.

"Anti-Subversive Law" Aims to Block Political Activities

"Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law" and "Law for Regulation of Demonstrations" are far more vicious in nature than the notorious fascistic "National Security Law" formulated under the Syngman Rhee regime.

Under these laws, members of all the political parties and social organizations, supporting independent national unification and opposing the U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique, can be punished by heavy sentences under charges of "violation of the national constitution" or "anti-state activities." What is worse, liable to punishment under the laws are those who intend to join or induce others to join such political parties and social organizations as well as those who support, encourage or sympathize with them and their members. Further, those who make, keep, carry or possess patriotic and progressive "documents, posters and propaganda bills, etc.," are also liable to severe punishment under the laws. Relatives or friends who know about it will also be punished in case they do not notify the authorities of their knowledge.

The Chang Myun clique intends to use these laws to suppress public meetings and demonstrations.

It is not without reason that the Chang Myun clique is desperately strengthening repressive measures against the South Korean people. This is nothing but an inevitable result of misgovernment by the U.S. imperialists and their puppets in the past 16 years. By doing so, they are desperately trying to cut out of the serious political and economic crisis in which they find themselves today.

It is quite natural that the South Korean people cannot tolerate the present predicament any longer in which they find themselves today—a people who overthrew the Syngman Rhee regime through a heroic struggle against starvation and poverty, for political rights, new government and a new life. Today the South Korean people are resolutely rising for the anti-American patriotic struggle, crying out, "Yankee, go home!" "Unification is the only way to live!"

Driven to a corner by the powerful struggle of the South Korean people, the U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique are making desperate efforts to formulate the vicious fascistic laws in order to prolong their domination.

S. Korean Political Parties Denounce Repressive Laws

The Central Council For Independent National Unification on March 11 issued a statement denouncing the Chang Myun clique for its plan to frame an "Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law," Hapdong Tongshin reports from Seoul.

The Council said the law was aimed at depriving the people of freedom of thought and expression and at suppressing labor movements. The Council declared that it would positively oppose the vicious law.

The Socialist Popular Party issued a statement on March 11, declaring the "Anti-Subversive Law" was aimed at repressing freedom of action and expression, which is an inalienable right of the people, and at strengthening the conservative and despotic regime.

Meanwhile, the South Korean **Socialist Party** issued a statement branding the intrigues to formulate the laws as a "treachery to democracy." The statement pointed out, "The government is intending to enforce these laws as soon as possible in order to suppress free expression of the people's will, because the people have lost confidence in the present administration which has continued misgovernment for these six months since it came into power." The statement demanded that the government immediately give up plans to frame these undemocratic laws.

The Progressive Party also said in a statement, "Creation of an atmosphere of terror means the end of the authorities in power. We strongly oppose the formulation of the laws."

The United Socialist Party issued a statement denouncing the laws as "far more vicious and undemocratic" in nature than the 'National Security Law' which was formulated by the Syngman Rhee regime.

The statement said, "The Chang Myun clique is determined to frame these fascistic laws by all means because they are afraid that they would not be able to remain in power without them.

The Council of Trade Unions said in its statement of March 13, "The Chang Myun clique and the Democratic Party, dishonest and incompetent, are hell-bent on ramming these fascistic laws through the Assembly and striking terror into the people. This is in spite of their emphasis on their "Economy First Policy." If the Chang Myun clique force these laws through the Assembly, there is no knowing what will happen, the statement added.

Meanwhile, **the ROK Socialist Party** said in a statement, "By trying hard to pass these laws through the Parliament, the Chang Myun clique and the Democratic Party are digging their own grave."

Trade Unions Announce Reopening of May Day Celebrations

The "Council of Trade Unions," one of the federations of trade unions in South Korea, issued on March 6 a statement that the Council would recover the right, deprived by the Syngman Rhee administration, to hold May Day celebrations, a Seoul dispatch said.

The statement also pointed out that instead of May Day celebrations, the Syngman Rhee administration had designated, since 1959, March 10 as "Labor Day" and had forced workers to take part in the government-sponsored celebrations.

This situation has not changed yet under the Chang Myun regime. "Labor Day" is nothing but a product of the Syngman Rhee's dictatorial regime and is aimed at making the people forget May Day, the festival of all the workers of the world, the statement continued.

The statement emphasized the workers in South Korea would participate in the forthcoming May Day celebrations to display their independent unity. It added that workers would rise on May Day to further develop their struggle for rice, democratic rights and world peace.

Joint-Struggle Committee Formed

Progressive parties and various sections of the people in South Korea on March 11 decided to form a "Joint Struggle Committee Against 'Anti-Subversive Extraordinary Law,'" to launch a nation-wide movement against the law, reports Donghwa Tongshin from Seoul.

They also decided to elect "negotiators" and to convey to the Chang Myun regime and the Diet their determination to oppose the law.

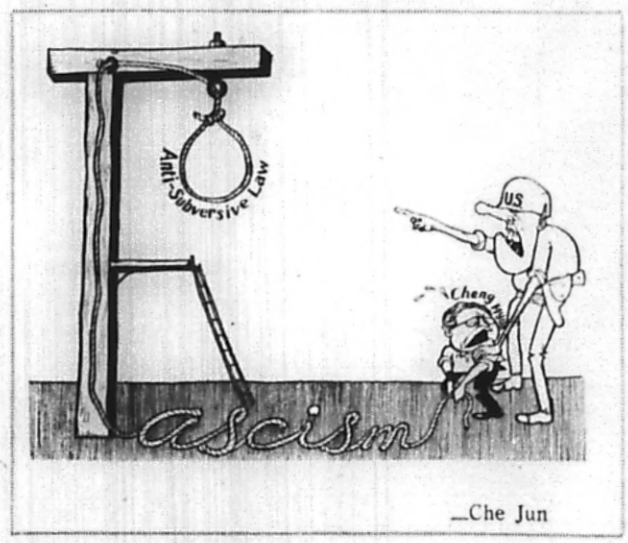
Puppet Army, Police Continue "Riot-Quelling Drills"

The U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique started on March 6 "Riot-Quelling Drills" again in Seoul, according to a report from Seoul. These drills scheduled to last until March 9, are a sort of military training aimed at quickly suppressing "riots" by the use of arms.

Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique held on March 6 the "South Korea-U.S. Joint Conference" of technical level, and reportedly decided to equip all the police forces in South Korea with up-to-date "chemical weapons" as soon as possible. The new equipment is said to be capable of "disposing of" peaceful demonstrators in a matter of seconds. The armed forces and the police have already received training on the weapon in the last few weeks, the report said.

The U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique have massed the police forces mainly in cities. Moreover, they have organized "mechanized police units" and the "joint control squads," composed of the police, the prosecution and the armed forces, and stationed them in major cities to make their "security" operations more effective.

The report said that these measures clearly indicate that they are afraid of the South Korean people's struggle now expanding still more widely.



—Che Jun

DPRK Memorandum Widely Supported By World's Peoples

On March 6, prior to the resumption of the latter-half session of the 15th U.N. General Assembly, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a memorandum on the "peaceful unification of Korea."

The memorandum was whole-heartedly supported by the peace-loving peoples of the world. The following is part of the international response to it:

U.S.S.R.—"Pravda" editorially supported the Memorandum of the DPRK Government in its March 10 issue. The editorial entitled "A Way to Unification of Korea" writes in part:

"As often stated by the DPRK Government, the unification based on peace and democracy can be accomplished only through free South-North general elections without any foreign interference. If the South Korean authorities are not yet ready to accept the general election plan, a South-North confederative system can be implemented as a transitional measure. Establishment of a South-North Economic Committee will be the first step toward realizing such a confederative system.

"The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea stated that it is ready to give assistance to South Korea for restoring and developing its economy. This proposal has aroused enthusiastic response among the South Korean people.

"However, the U.S. armed forces occupying South Korea in the name of the U.N. is obstructing the national unification of Korea. This is the biggest obstacle standing in the way of the unification of Korea."

Quoting the statement of Dec. 7, 1960 by the Soviet Government, the editorial said in conclusion that the U.N. should demand immediate evacuation of all the foreign armed forces from South Korea and dissolution of the "U.N. Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea."

China—"Ren Min Ri Bao," organ of the Chinese Communist Party, carried on March 9 an article supporting the Memorandum of the DPRK Government of March 6, Korean Central News Agency reported on March 9. The article said in part as follows:

"The plan of the DPRK Government for peaceful unification of Korea is now positively supported by the South and North Korean people and the peace-loving peoples of the world. It is the U.S. forcibly occupying South Korea that is obstructing peaceful unification of Korea.

"The Chinese people strongly support the Korean people's struggle for peaceful unification of their fatherland. The Chinese people have consistently asserted that the Korean question should be solved by the Korean people themselves.

"The 'U. N. Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea,' a tool of the U.S. imperialists for interfering in the domestic affairs of Korea, should be dissolved as soon as possible, and the U.S. forces should be withdrawn from South Korea immediately.

"Representatives from both South and North Korea should gather in one place and discuss the new unification plan proposed by the DPRK so that the Korean people may create conditions for holding free South-North general elections on the basis of democracy and for accomplishing peaceful unification. This is the only way to the solution of the Korean question.

Czechoslovakia—"Obrana L'udu," organ of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, carried on March 7 a summary of the DPRK Memorandum under the headline "'U.N. Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea' is a tool of the U.S. imperialists for pushing their aggressive policy." Meanwhile, 'Pravda' of Slovakia also carried a summary of the Memorandum under the headline "For Peaceful Unification of Korea."

Vietnam—The Vietnamese newspaper 'People' editorially supported in its March 8 issue the DPRK Government Memorandum, saying, "We wholeheartedly support the Korean people's demand that the U.S. imperialists immediately withdraw from South Korea and that the 'U.N. Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea' be dissolved as early as possible."

Bulgaria—Newspapers in Bulgaria on March 10 editorially supported the DPRK Government Memorandum. Asserting that the only rational solution of the Korean question is peaceful unification, these papers said unanimously that the danger of war in the Far East will be eliminated for ever if the reasonable plans proposed by the DPRK are realized.

Rumania—'Scinteia' and 'Romania Libera' supported on March 12 the DPRK Memorandum in their editorials entitled "For Peaceful Unification of Korea" and "The Korean question should be solved by the Korean people themselves."

Relief of Starving Farmers Urgently Demanded

South Korean villages have been plunged into a more miserable state of poverty and starvation since the Chang Myun clique came into power.

The "Munhua Broadcasting Station" in Pusan said on March 10: "Farmers living on the brink of starvation! Spring is come. But several millions of farmers are deprived of a means of living. Spring means nothing but an off-crop season to these farmers. There is nothing but misery in the countryside."

Relief of food-short farmers is an urgent question in South Korea. The Chang Myun clique, instead of saving farmers, is continuing a policy of national treachery such as the reduction of the dollar-huan exchange rate, a drastic increase in various rates and prices, and conclusion of the "'ROK'–U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement."

The broadcast said:

"Policies of the government are not reliable. Farmers are only free to starve." Youth and students in South Korea have launched a relief campaign for food-short farmers.

Some 1,200 high-school boys and girls in Pusan each contributed a handful of rice, which amounted to one "suk" of relief rice (one suk is equal to 5 bushels), according to the broadcast.

Together with the Pusan students, students of Yonse University distributed leaflets appealing for relief of famine-stricken farmers. They were back home in Pusan from Seoul for the term-end holidays.

The broadcast appealed for public aid for these famine-stricken farmers: "We should raise even a small sum of money or collect even a grain of rice to save farmers and compatriots from starvation."

Food-Short Farmers Increase

Nearly one million farmers (about 160,000 households) in South Cholla Province, once the granary of South Korea, are now on the verge of starvation, according to a report from South Korea. The number of food-short farming households was some 100,000 as of Jan. 28.

Meanwhile, food-short farming households in North Kyongsang Province amounted to some 204,500 comprising 1,270,000 persons as of the beginning of February. This number accounts for more than 52 per cent of the total number of farming families in the province. The number of food-short farmers increased by 141,000, compared with the Jan. 8 figure.

One Doctor to 13,000 Villagers

South Korean villagers, comprising 70 per cent of the total population, cannot enjoy the benefits of medical service even when they are seriously ill, according to a Seoul report.

In South Korea, the average number of villagers to one doctor is 13,143. There is no doctor in 451 myuns (administrative unit lower than county), while in other myuns there are clinics only at the seats of myun-offices. For example, in Tamyang County, South Cholla Province, 9 of 11 myuns are doctorless and the remaining two myuns have "public doctors."

In South Korea, more than half of the doctors are serving the puppet army or administrative bodies.

For Remedying Electric Shortage in S. Korea

Kim Doo Sam, Vice-Chairman of Commission of Heavy Industry, writes in an article of Rodong Shinmoon on concrete measures for coping with the power shortage of South Korea.

The high-tension line cut at the military demarcation line should be connected at once. Then dark South Korea will be illumined in a flash with the switch put in on the transmission line between Pyongyang and Soosaik, near Seoul, he says.

In preliberation years North and South Korea were organically linked by a single electric system.

However, Kim Doo Sam points out, the U.S. imperialist occupiers have cut this flow of electricity and detached South Korea from the source of electric supply.

If only the barrier between the North and South is torn down, we will supply electricity to South Korea right immediately. We have made all possible preparations for this, he declares.

The per capita output of electricity of the northern part of the country has surpassed that of Japan by far and it is over ten times greater than that in South Korea, he adds.

Last year electricity supply of South Korea met only 28.2 per cent of its minimum requirement. Worse still, 60 or 80 per cent of this meagre supply is used up by the U.S. imperialist aggressive army and other military setups and by the puppet government organs.

Owing to this, almost all the flour mills of South Korea and 70 or 90 per cent of the fibre and rubber processing industry and mining enterprises in South Korea are in a chronic state of part-time operation or sustension. And 88 per cent of phe peasant households in South Korea cannot get electric light and 32 per cent of the households even in Seoul have no electric wiring.

The Vice-Chairman of the Commission of Heavy Industry refers in detail to ways and means of solving such shortage of electricity in South Korea.

He says: In the first year we will transmit, to begin with, 100,000–150,000 kw which is more than the highest transmission of electricity before liberation, and in the following years we will lay a power line through the middle part of the country for increasing electricity transmission to 400,000 kw.

100,000–150,000 kw electricity supply from the northern part will free South Korea from buying expensive electric installations and heavy oil from the United States and from the heavy burden of investment for building power stations.

For building a strong power base also in South Korea, we will construct four hydropower stations with a total generating capacity of 210,000 kw in Choongjoo, Ryechun, Andong and Chinjoo of South Korea in the coming few years.

Besides, we will explore hydropower sources of 870,000 kw in the Han, Rakdong, Sumjin and Keum rivers and tidal power sources of one million kw in the saline land of the western coast.

The only remaining question for us to solve is the immediate realization of North–South economic exchange through negotiations, stresses Kim Doo Sam.

Then he trenchantly denounces the frantic machinations of the Chang Myun clique to hamper North-South parley and intercourse and to invite to South Korea such Japanese militarist monopolies as "Mitsubishi," "Shibaura" and "Hitachi" under the pretext of "building thermo-power stations."

The Chang Myun clique sholud not prevent the helping hands of the North Korean people from reaching the South Korean compatriots who are demanding economic interchange and negotiations between the South and North and the supply of electricity from the northern part of our Republic.

He stresses in conclusion:

All the facts prove that the acute electricity shortage in South Korea can not be solved by South Korea alone but it can be solved only by relying upon the powerful economic forces of North Korea.

The way out of the predicament in which South Korea finds itself is clearly indicated in the letter and recommendations of the Eighth Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly which are evoking great repercussion among the broad popular masses and the political circles of South Korea.

Industries in Samchok Almost Destroyed

Most of industrial plants are now suspending operation in Samchok, Kangwon Province, one of the most important industrial areas in South Korea, Hapdong Tongshin reported from Seoul on March 1.

The "Tongyang Chemical Combinat" in South Korea, is still in ruins, destroyed during the Korean War, and the carbide manufacturing "Buksang Chemical Plant" has been suspending operation for a long time owing to market difficulties. "Samhwa Iron Public Cooperation," the only iron foundry in S. Korea and a relic of Japanese imperialist rule, is now in suspension owing to financial difficulties and coking coal shortage.

Anthracite coal-fields in this district, where there are 80 per cent of the total coal deposits of South Korea, are not extensively developed. Surface coal is almost exhausted as it was excavated recklessly in order to meet the military demand of the U.S. imperialists and their puppets.

This district is an important industrial center. The chemical, iron manufacture and mining industries, which are found there, will be a basis for independent development of the South Korean economy. The total destruction of industries in this district is an epitome of the catastrophic economic situation of South Korea.

Hapdong Tongshin reported, "The U.S. imperialists are trying to discourage the development of the lime stone or carbide industry, which also produces various other chemical products. They are selling to South Korea as "aid" goods chemicals, fertilizers, chemical fibers, etc., totaling about several hundred million dollars annually."

Japanese Hold Rally to Demand Suspension of "Talks"

Japanese people demonstrate demanding suspension of the "Japan-ROK Talks."

Japanese people desiring friendship between the Japanese and Korean peoples and world peace held a rally on March 11 in Tokyo, to demand immediate suspension of the "Japan–ROK Talks." The rally was sponsored by the "Liaison Conference Against the 'Japan–ROK' Talks" (consisting of 34 organizations) and was attended by some 3,000 persons, including the representatives from 14 prefectures.

At the rally, Masaharu Hatanaka, board chairman of the Japan-Korea Friendship Society, spoke on behalf of the sponsors. Representatives from the Japan Communist Party, the Japan Socialist Party, the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan and other mass organizations also addressed the meeting.

Hatanaka said, "The purpose of the 'Talks' is to strengthen the Japan-U.S. "Security" structure for the purpose of forming a NEATO military bloc. In trying to normalize diplomatic relations and to settle outstanding questions between Japan and Korea, the Ikeda Government and the Chang Myun puppet administration are intending to perpetuate the division of Korea, obstruct the peaceful unification of Korea and to maintain tension in Asia, he added.

Tomitaro Kaneda, vice-president of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (Sohyo), and representatives of many economic bodies, youth and various other organizations unanimously declared that they would struggle to crush the "Japan-ROK Talks," together with all the Japanese people, for the sake of lasting friendship between the Japanese and Korean peoples, as part of their battle for world peace.

The rally unanimously adopted resolutions and a declaration demanding immediate suspension of the "Japan-ROK Talks" and the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Asia.

After the rally, the participants held a street demonstration. Led by sound trucks and buses, they marched through the main streets of Tokyo, carrying placards reading: "For Immediate Suspension of 'Japan-ROK Talks!'" "Withdraw U.S. Forces from Asia!" "We Support the peaceful Unification of Korea!"

Meanwhile, representatives of the rally handed petitions and protests to the government authorities in the name of the meeting.

The resolution adopted at the rally follows in part:

1. By pushing "Japan-ROK Talks," the Ikeda Government and the Chang Myun regime intend to normalize diplomatic relations and to settle unilaterally pending questions between Japan and Korea such as "property claims" and "legal status of Koreans in Japan."

This is an open act of hostility to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as it is based on the Japanese Government's recognition of the Chang Myun regime as the sole legitimate government representing the whole of Korea.

The Chang Myun regime is by no means qualified to represent Korea.

The Japanese people do not permit the Ikeda Government to squander colossal sums of national expenditures in the form of "compensation," "economic aid" in connection with the socalled "property claims," to bolster the Chang Myun regime.

2. The Korean question must be settled on the basis of the principle of promoting friendship and peace among Asian peoples. For that purpose, the Ikeda Government should take measures to establish friendly relations between Japan and the DPRK, beginning with cultural and personnel interchange, and to open direct trade between Japan and the DPRK. Political and economic questions affecting the whole of Korea should be settled between the Japanese government and the government of Korea to be established after its unification.

411 Million 66 Thousand Yen Sent to Koreans In Japan for Aiding Their Education

411 million 66 thousand yen (410,000 pounds) was sent to the Central Educational Association of Koreans in Japan from the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society which was entrusted with the vast sum of money by the Oversea Compatriots' Relief Committee, Korean Cenrtal News Agency reported on March 17.

This vast amount of money is to be used as funds for educational aid and scholarship in order to help the national and democratic education of children of Korean citizens in Japan. The total sum of money for educational assistance and scholarship sent on nine occasions in the past is 1,543 million 413,907 yen.

Koreans in Japan Unite in Feting April 19 Anniversary

The April 19 Popular Uprising of last year was a great revolutionary development in South Korea. On that day about 500, 000 Seoul citizens rose against the fascistic and terroristic Rhee regime, demanding South-North unification and living rights.

This uprising was participated in by people in all walks of life. As a result, Syngman Rhee was brought down on April 26. With the first anniversary of the uprising just around the corner, the South Korean people are intensifying their struggle against the Chang Myun clique and U. S. colonial rule.

Korean citizens in Japan are preparing to celebrate the anniversary of the April 19 Popular Uprising as part of their campaign for promoting unification of their fatherland.

Chairman Han Duk Su of the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan sent a letter to the Korean Residents' Union (a pro-"ROK" organization in Japan), proposing to co-sponsor the anniversary event on April 19.

Meanwhile, korean men of culture in Japan are going to form a joint organization, irrespective of their ideological colorings, to hold a cultural festival scheduled to be held on April 17 in commemoration of the uprising.

Editorial

We whole-heartedly Support DPRK Gov't Memorandum on Peaceful Unification

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published on March 6 a memorandum on the peaceful unification of Korea.

The memorandum gave a detailed account of the recent developments of the struggle of the Korean people for independent unification of their fatherland, and of the political and economic situation of South Korea.

The memorandum stressed that unification of Korea should be achieved by the Korean people themselves without any foreign interference, and denounced bitterly the U.S. imperialists' intention again to place illegitimately the Korean question on the agenda of the U.N. General Assembly, as part of their plan to perpetuate the division of Korea.

The Korean citizens in Japan, together with all the compatriots in the fatherland, wholeheartedly support the memorandum, and are determined to do their utmost in the Anti-American patriotic struggle.

All the Korean people know well that the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. forces is the root cause of the division of Korea and is responsible for the miserable life and rightless status of the South Korean people. Therefore, supporting whole-heartedly the proposal of the Government of the DPRK, movements for South-North negotiation and economic and cultural interchange are developing into nation-wide proportions among the South Korean people. These movements are aimed at realizing unification through "independent efforts," not through "dependence on any foreign power."

In the light of these facts, arguments advocating "an election under U.N. supervision" or brushing aside "Unification of Korea" as impractical and premature, are completely groundless.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to cover up their criminal acts in South Korea by creating the impression that the South Korean economy has entered a "stage of development and growth" through their "aid."

But actually the recent economic situation in South Korea is in a hopeless state. The South Korean people are strengthening their struggle with each passing day, demanding their living right, no longer able to tolerate the present situation.

The question of the unification of Korea is, after all, an internal affair of the Korean people, a question concerning their own destiny and the selection of a state form and a social system they desire. Neither the United Nations nor any other organs or countries can and should be permitted to interfere in this affair.

What is required of the United Nations to do, is to take measures for the immediate removal of the U.S. forces from South Korea and immediately to dissolve the "U.N. Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea." We strongly demand this once again.

South-North Co-op. for Development of Nat'l Arts Urged

Pyongyang Shinmoon publishes an article by Merited Artiste Kim Yung Kil, under the headline "North and South Should Pool Strength for Further Efflorescence of National Culture and Arts."

The famous tenor who returned home from Japan last year said:

Now I am standing on the stage of the gorgeous Pyongyang Grand Theatre which we can boast of before the world. At this moment, I feel boundlessly happy.

Having witnessed the evil effects of Yankee culture in Japan for over ten years, I cannot help thinking about the hardships and tragic plight of the South Korean artists of national conscience and principle.

According to what I have learned and witnessed, the South Korean arts spoiled by Yankee culture are more decadent and degenerate than those of Japan. Thus in South Korea, our national arts with a long history and tradition are despised and withering and the talented artists are suffering from hunger.

Quite the reverse is the situation in the northern part of the Republic. Here our national culture and arts are in full bloom.

In the Vienna Festival of World Youth and Students in 1959, our young artists won 47 gold and silver medals and our arts came to be called "golden arts."

During the past one year, I have made performance tours of a good many cities, factories, mines, rural villages and fishing ports. Everywhere I went, I saw amateur art circles and splendid theatres and clubs. All the people were enjoying the national arts to their hearts' content.

In Japan I sang for 25 years in operas and concerts for privileged circles in big cities only. They were not for the people but for money-making by capitalists.

After returning home from Japan where I had undergone bitter hardships for so many years, I was even awarded the title of Merited Artiste under the deep solicitude of the Party and the beloved leader and am now learning rehearsing and performing in the Pyongyang Grand Theatre furnished with modern facilities.

Such is the sharp contrast of the North and South of our country which were liberated on the same day and at the same hour.

What a heart-rending tragedy for us brothers and sisters of the same blood! Let's quickly unify the country peacefully!

The 30 million people should all fight for the realization of the proposals of the Supreme People's Assembly which realistically concretized the great programme for the unification of the country and the prosperity of the nation set forth by Premier Kim Il Sung in his report at the celebration meeting for the 15th anniversary of the August 15 Liberation.

Let us, North and South Korean artists, sit at one place and discuss measures for developing our culture and arts as a single whole!

Artists in the south, form an art troupe and come to the North and perform on our stage.

We are also ready to go to the South for performance.

Let us, artists of the North and South, pool our strength and drive out the decadent Yankee "culture" from South Korea and bring the national culture and arts into full bloom!

Let's unite and bring earlier the peaceful unification of the country!

PATRIOTIC WORK OF KOREAN CITIZENS IN JAPAN

We endeavor to win peaceful unification and independence for our fatherland by driving out all foreign aggressors, headed by the U. S. imperialists, who violate sovereignty and territory of the fatherland and interfere in our internal affairs, and by isolating their agent, Syngman Rhee clique. (The second item of the program of the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan)

Why Did Koreans Come Over to Japan? (1)

Koreans began to come over to Japan in the late nineteenth century. According to statistics, the number of Koreans in Japan was only 16 in 1883, the year of opening of Inchon Port to overseas trade, 155 in 1897 and 790 in 1908, the year preceding the "annexation" of Korea by Japan.

About that time, the Li Dynasty barely maintained its feudalistic government in Korea, which the Japanese imperialists were aiming to colonize.

As for the social and economic conditions of Korea in those days, the feudal production relations was still dominant there, though some social reforms had been carried out.

The "manufacture" form of production was not yet fully developed and class differentiation in villages was still in an embryonic stage.

The Koreans who came over to Japan around this time were mostly sons and daughters of the feudal nobility and landed aristocrats. They came to study here.

In those days, the Japanese government followed the policy of barring "foreign laborers" from entering Japan, though it permitted "common foreigners" (westerners) to enter Japan freely. By "foreign laborers" are meant "Koreans" or "Chinese."

Koreans in Japan numbered 3,635 in 1913. This number gradually increased between 1915 and 1918 and began to rise sharply after World War I.

The following table shows the yearly increase in the number of Koreans in Japan:

Year	Number of Koreans in Japan
1911	2,527
1913	3,635
1915	3,989
1917	14,501
1918	22,262
1920	30,175
1925	133,710
1930	298,091
1936	690,501
1941	1,469,230
1944	1,936,843
1945	2,057,944

(Statistics by the Japanese Ministry of Home Affairs)

They may be classified into the following five categories:

(A) Free emigrants (in years immediately after annexation).
(B) Emigrants with entry certificates.
(C) Privately recruited laborers.
(D) Government-recruited laborers during the war.
(E) Koreans drafted as soldiers during the war.

This table shows that a greater part of Korean emigrants to Japan were those forcibly brought here as laborers, while a small fraction belongs to categories (A) and (B).

Then, why did the number of Koreans in Japan drastically increase between 1910 and 1920?

Around that time, the Japanese imperialist rule was firmly established in Korea.

During 1910–1918, the Japanese imperialists expropriated Korean peasants and placed vast lands under their control.

The Japanese imperialists started "land investigation" in order to determine the ownership of lands, and forcibly pillaged the lands whose ownership was uncertain. Further, a modern land tax system was imposed on the Korean farmers as a result of the "land investigation."

At the same time, land came to be bought and sold freely, with the result that Korean farmers were rapidly turned into proletarians.

Meanwhile, Japanese monopoly capital amassed colossal sums of profits during World War I and accumulated vast amounts of capital. Japan entered the stage of rapid industrial development, concentrating its efforts on the construction of heavy industries.

The Japanese imperialists began large-scale capital investment in Korea to develop it as a supply source of industrial raw materials.

Against such a background, Japanese monopoly capital imported cheap labor power from Korea to cover manpower shortage and to maintain the low-wage policy.

On March 1, 1919, the Korean people rose against despotic rule by the Japanese imperialists. In April of 1919 immediately after the people's uprising, the "entry certificate system" was introduced to replace the old system under which any Koreans had been free to emigrate to Japan. After the introduction of the "entry certificate," the emigration of Koreans to Japan was strictly controlled by the Japanese Government.

The Japanese authorities took this measure, because they were afraid that the Japanese people would be influenced by the nation-wide anti-Japanese, national liberation movement of the Korean people.

However, Koreans in Japan began to increase rapidly after December of 1922, when the Government-General of Korea eased restrictions on Koreans' emigration to Japan.

Koreans supplied cheap labor power for Japanese monopoly capital and Japanese enterprisers, who could utilize them to maintain the wages of Japanese workers at low levels. Naturally, Japanese workers began to bear a grudge against Korean workers. ※

Thousands of Koreans massacred in Tokyo in the Great Earthquake Disaster of 1923

※ The Japanese imperialists, utilizing the antagonisms between the Korean and Japanese peoples told the Japanese people that their hard life was caused by Koreans. By doing so, they imbued the Japanese people's mind with anti-foreign ideas. A good example of their policy of abetting the Japanese against Koreans was the massacre of Koreans during the great Earthquake Disaster of 1923.

The Japanese authorities circulated groundless rumors against the Koreans in Japan in an atmosphere of social unrest following the great earthquake disaster to incite Japanese mobs against Koreans, and murdered a large number of Koreans. Following this incident, the Japanese authorities prohibited Koreans' entry into Japan for a while, but the prohibition was withdrawn in June of 1924.

Soon after that, however, the Japanese authorities again prohibited Koreans' entry into Japan, as the Japanese economy was hit by a serious depression.

After July of 1928, the Japanese Government further strengthened this policy, permitting only those merchants, children of Japanophiles and landowners whom the Government-General of Korea considered "desirable," to come over to Japan.

Thus, Koreans' emigration to Japan depended on the fluctuations of the labor market.

Koreans in Japan numbered 298,091 in 1930; or 10 times of the number of 1920.

The world economic crisis beginning in 1929 plunged into a more acute depression the Japanese economy, which had been plagued by a chronic crisis.

In order to cut out of this depression, the Japanese imperialists began to launch the invasion of China, which Japan had been planning for a long time.

The aggressive war against Manchuria (the North-Eastern district of China), was the first step taken by the Japanese imperialists toward their long-range and full-scale aggressive policy.

During this period, the Japanese imperialists made every possible effort to turn Korea into a military base, carrying out their policy of invading the continent. As a result, the Korean people were forced to suffer increased oppression and intensified exploitation by the Japanese imperialists. More and more Korean peasants were deprived of their land and turned into proletarians. Everywhere in the country, peasants were leaving their villages, individually or collectively, in search of jobs in cities.

During the period from 1917 to 1932, the number of farming households increased by 11 per cent, while that of owner farmers fell by eight per cent and that of owner-tenant farmers by 30 per cent. However, tenant farmers increased by 56 per cent in number. Statistics shows that in 1938 poor farmers comprised 78.2 per cent of all the farming households. Surplus labor power created in the agrarian communities in the course of this rapid disintegration provided an ample supply source of labor for Japanese monopoly capital. Japanese imperialists, accordingly, were able to recruit and exploit Korean workers whenever and wherever they were needed.

Meanwhile, the Japanese imperialists mobilized the masses of Korean farmers to develop agriculture in "Manchuria" (the North-Eastern district of China), which was placed under Japanese imperialist control as the result of the "Manchurian Incident." During the 1930's, Korean emigrants to Japan did not increase so rapidly as before, but they continued to trickle into Japan.

In 1937, when the "Sino-Japanese Incident" broke out, the total number of Koreans in Japan stood at 735,689, or about twice and a half the number in 1931. In 1939, however, when the Japanese extended their battle fronts throughout the Chinese continent, or when Japan was about to launch the Pacific War, the situation rapidly changed. In 1937 (on July 28), the Japanese government decided on a plan to import Korean workers en masse, and issued instructions by both the Vice-Ministers of Home Affairs and of Public Welfare concerning the recruitment of Korean workers.

On Sept. 1, Government-General of Korea issued the instruction of its superintendent general of administrative affairs on the "recruitment of Korean workers and their passage to Japan."

After the issuance of this instruction, coal and metal mine operators, construction companies, ect. were permitted to recruit Korean laborers with its approval in areas designated by the Government-General. Korean laborers recruited in this way were brought to Japan en masse.

(Continued to next issue)

Readers' Column

Dear Friend Kim Min Hua;

Thank you for sending copies of THE PEOPLE'S KOREA You are doing a much needed noble work and those people who have an interest in humanity are surely in debt to you and your assistants and supporters.

I believe I can make known the availability of your paper to my fellow countrymen.

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

From an American friend.

Dear Mr. President,

I have received No. 2/61 of "The People's Korea" and want to thank you. I am very interested in Korean and Japanese matters, especially in the fate of the Koreans in Japan.

Some years ago, I visited Japan, but sorry I had no opportunity to see your organization. Later on, the question of the Koreans living in Japan became very important and I have written a lot about it. The aim of the Koreans, to go from Japan to Pyongyang, is very often declared in West Germany as "wonder," but this wonder results from the facts happened in the Socialist Korea. In the West, the thoughts about North Korea are changing.

The leading West German newspaper "Frankfurter Rundschau" wrote in the last days of January about North Korea, "that there was introduced in the schools a nine-year compulsory technical education," and the paper wrote furthermore: "Other Asian countries, which are interested in industrialization, are to take this education system as a model.

For me, your page 4 (Two Entirely Different Education Systems in North and South Korea) was of great value. Is it possible for you to send me more materials about the Koreans in Japan? For example, over repatriation?

Thanking you in anticipation. I wish you great success.

With best regards,

From a German friend.

The People's Korea
Published every Tuesday by Chosun Shinbo Sa
President and Publisher: Kim Min Hua
Office: 5 Tsukudo Hachimancho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Anyone is free to reproduce all the articles and stories in the People's Korea.